

# Okinawa MARINE

III MEF Band trades their instruments for rifles and takes on JWTC's Endurance Course. See pages 10-11 for story and photos.



March 2, 2001

Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan

www.okinawa.usmc.mil

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### NEWS

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Hanging up the cammies to head back to civilian life? Thousands of service members are turning to a new website for useful information on job placement assistance and to find out what benefits they are eligible for.

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### FEATURE

#### Master Sergeant recounts struggle for her life

Thanks to a timely self examination, MSgt Dixie L. Franklin, Legal Service Chief, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, is able to survive a battle with breast cancer that very well may have taken her life.

see page 13 for more

### SPORTS

#### Hansen House of Pain hosts weightlifting contest

The contest, sponsored by Marine Corps Community Services and Semper Fit Athletics, provided service members an opportunity to flex their muscles as competitors piled on the pounds to see who was strongest.

see page 16 for more

### LEISURE

#### Recreation facility offers a taste of paradise

The Okuma Joint Services Recreation Facility offers all Status of Forces Agreement personnel a way to escape the stresses of military life on Okinawa without the expense of an off-island vacation.

see page 17 for more

### FORECAST



Today

high 70 low 60



Saturday

high 69 low 63



Sunday

high 71 low 62

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USMC PHOTO

Newly arrived Marines from the III Marine Expeditionary Force make their way from an airfield in Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Shield.

# III MEF went to war

## Ten-year anniversary of the Persian Gulf War

CONSOLIDATED PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

**CAMP FOSTER** — Ten years have passed since United Nations forces liberated Kuwait from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's military forces.

Saddam Hussein — who sought to profit from acquiring Kuwait's large oil reserves — repeatedly ignored the United Nations' call to withdraw from Kuwait, the United Nations' coalition forces led by the United States began aerial bombardments of Iraq Jan. 16-17, 1991, commencing the Gulf War.

Among the U.S. forces, about 8,000 Marines from III Marine Expeditionary Force were deployed to the region to help liberate and protect Kuwait from Saddam Hussein's army.

The Marine Corps also contributed to the humanitarian efforts after the Persian Gulf War. During Operation Provide Comfort 1991 — a Marine Corps humanitarian relief operation in northern Iraq, a key element was the logistical network that involved Marines and Sailors from the 3d Force Service Support Group, III MEF.

Immediately following the Iraqi invasion,

President George Bush vowed to help Kuwait. The struggle to liberate Kuwait followed this timeline:

- **Aug. 2, 1990** — The Iraqi military forces — which had extensive combat experience due to the recent end of an eight-year war with Iran — invaded Kuwait.

- **Aug. 6, 1990** — The United Nations Security Council called for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait the following day, and the council imposed a worldwide ban on trade with Iraq.

Iraq's invasion and the potential threat it then posed to Saudi Arabia prompted the United States and its NATO allies to rush troops to Saudi Arabia to deter a possible attack as part of Operation Desert Shield.

- **Nov. 29, 1990** — The UN Security Council authorized the use of force against Iraq.

- **Jan. 16-17, 1991** — The Persian Gulf War began, starting with a massive United States-led air offensive against Iraq that continued throughout the war.

- **Jan. 26, 1991** — U.S. Marines in Oman participate in Sea Solider IV, a rehearsal for an amphibious landing on Kuwait.

By mid-February the Allies had shifted their air attacks to Iraq's forward ground forces in Kuwait and southern Iraq, de-

stroying their fortifications and tanks.

- **Feb. 24, 1991** — Operations Desert Sabre, a massive Allied ground offensive, was launched northward from northeastern Saudi Arabia into Kuwait and southern Iraq. Within three days, Arab and U.S. forces had retaken Kuwait City in the face of crumbling Iraqi resistance.

While the main Allied offensive took place in Kuwait, the main U.S. armor element drove into Iraq some 120 miles west of Kuwait and attacked Iraq's armored reserves from the rear.

- **Feb. 28, 1991** — President George Bush declared a cease-fire when Iraqi resistance had completely collapsed.

Kuwait's independence was restored while the UN-sanctioned trade embargo on Iraq remained in force after war's end.

The United States forces suffered 148 killed in action, 458 wounded and 121 killed in non-hostile actions.

The Persian Gulf War cost Iraq more than 100,000 of the 545,000 troops in the Kuwait Theater of Operations. Of Iraq's 44 army divisions, 42 were found to be combat ineffective.

*\*Information for this article was taken from "U.S. Marines in the Persian Gulf, 1990-1991: Anthology and Annotated Bibliography" and [www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/gulf/cron](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/gulf/cron).*

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# Internet speeds up awards process

*New process cuts tracking and waiting time from weeks and months to as soon as days*

SGT DARYL G. SANFORD  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

**MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va.** — Recognizing Marines for a job well done with a personal medal has sometimes taken so long that the Marine forgot what they did to be recognized.

Now, commanders and officers in charge have the ability to cut waiting time dramatically due to a new process on an Internet website.

Under the old system, the award is drafted by the officer in charge of the Marine recommended, and then forwarded up the chain of command through the mail, said Capt Ronald Tootle, military awards branch.

There was the possibility of the award taking weeks or months to be forwarded up the chain of command.

"Before, the hard copy of the award could sit in an inbox for days or weeks before someone could get to it," Capt Tootle said.

At the new site, located at <http://awards.manpower.usmc.mil>, the process for submitting and tracking awards will be quicker.

"With this new process, awards could be approved in less than a day for expedient awards," Capt Tootle said.

"For example, if a Marine displayed heroic bravery during an early morning patrol and his chain of command wanted to award him a Bronze Star later that afternoon or evening, it wouldn't be possible in the past system," Capt Tootle said. "But under the new system, if the command had access to a computer and the Internet, the award submission could be electronically forwarded up the chain of command, go in front of a board and be approved by Headquarters Marine Corps and returned that same day."

That was the reason the new web-based award system was developed.

"Our idea was that no matter where you are in the world, you can submit an award if you have access to a computer and some way to link to the Internet," Capt Tootle said.

A picture of three versions of the Medal of Honor, from the Army, Navy and Air Force, adorn the homepage of the site, along with a list of links on the left-hand side.

For users new to the site, the first thing they have to do is register by clicking the link at the top of the page.

The site also has several references, including the new Marine Corps Order on awards, other orders from the Department of Defense and Department of the Navy, Marine Administrative and All-Marine Messages pertaining to awards and a picture of each award.

A list of requirements is also available along with the pictures of each award.

After registering and researching the award, Marines are also able to electronically submit the award through e-mail and track it through the approval process.

Although the website makes the award process quicker, Capt Tootle says the command still has the responsibility to be timely.

"Giving someone an award is one of the only tangible ways we can recognize our Marines," Capt Tootle said. "It also serves to inspire other Marines and gives them an incentive to continue to strive."



SSGT JASON M. WEBB

## Shouldering the load

LCpl Robert Uhall, Generator Mechanic, Headquarters and Service Co, Marine Air Support Squadron-2, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, hoists LCpl Matt Renfrow, Motor Transport Operator, H&S Co, during the fireman's carry. Marines from various units participated in the day-long field meet on Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Feb. 23.

# DoDEA to administer assessment test

CHARLES K. STEITZ  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

**CAMP FOSTER** — All schools within the Department of Defense Education Activity will administer the Terra Nova Multiple Assessments test to all students in grades 3-11 on March 5-9, 2001.

The Terra Nova scores are not used to evaluate the child for promotion nor do they in any way affect their report card grades.

However, individual scores are looked at to assess areas of strengths and weaknesses.

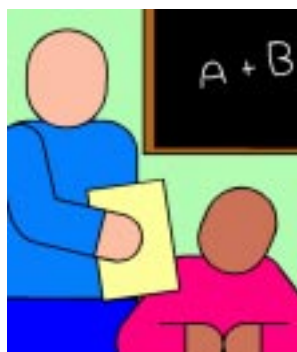
"Primarily, they are used to help direct intervention for children who are at or below the 25th percentile, in order to improve their chances of doing better on the subsequent year's test, helping to narrow the gap," said Betsy Horton, Counselor at Kinser Elementary School. "The scores are reviewed on a schoolwide basis to develop the school improvement plan. Research-based strategies (instructional strategies) are identified to address the areas of weakness based on the scores."

In addition, the scores are used to compare schools within Okinawa, DoDDS, DODEA, and other U.S. schools that administer Terra Nova to see how they are doing as a school, district, area, and organization.

In this way, the scores guide curriculum, materials, and instruction.

"The Terra Nova is a standardized test designed to provide accurate, consistent and objective information about student's achievement in the areas of reading, language arts, mathematics, science and social studies," said Veronica Lopez, School Liaison for the 18th Wing.

When used in conjunction with other measures, such as classroom observation, a standardized achievement test can provide valuable



information about the progress of individual students and groups, as well as the effectiveness of educational programs.

"It is important to review test results with your children so that students can learn to properly assess their own educational and personal growth," said Kelley Germaine, DoDDS-Okinawa Communications Liaison.

"We need to continue to emphasize that the testing of knowledge analyzes what is already known and where there are areas of growth and potential," she added.

If parents have any questions about testing, contact either the school counselor or speak with their child's teacher.

There will be a makeup session March 12-16 for all students absent during the initial testing.

Parents and other interested parties can view school, district, area, and worldwide scores on the DoDEA website ([www.odedodea.edu](http://www.odedodea.edu)).

## How parents can help their child:

- Assure your child that the test is an opportunity for students to show how much they have learned in school; that they are not expected to know all the answers, only try their best.
- Encouragement and praise will boost your child's self-concept and minimize test anxiety.
- Insure that your child gets a good night's sleep and eats a good protein breakfast for sustained concentration and peak performance.
- If you have to make a doctor appointment during the week of testing, please make it after noon.
- It is essential that your child be present and on time each day of testing.
- It is very important to remember that the Terra Nova is only one measure of your child's academic progress.

# New DoD website offers transportal to civilian life

*Job placement assistance, useful information to transitioning service members now available on the Internet*

LINDA D. KOZARYN  
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — Hanging up the cammies to head back to civilian life? When Uncle Sam's paychecks stop, you'll most likely need a job. The Department of Defense wants to help you find one.

Thousands of people are turning to DoD Transportal, the department's new Web site at [www.dodtransportal.org](http://www.dodtransportal.org) for transition assistance in returning to civilian life.

"Transportal is designed to be the service member's doorway to Internet transition and job assistance information," according to Ollie M. Smith, Transition Assistance Program Director in DoD's Office of Educational Opportunity.

"We've gotten very positive feedback from both former service members and private employers," she said. "They're saying it's a good tool for start-

ing the job hunt early and it provides a lot of good references and resources.

"Transportal is intended to complement the assistance provided by military transition assistance program managers," Smith said. "People still need to visit their local transition assistance office for pre-separation counseling. This is usually part of their normal out-processing procedures."

The DoD Transition Assistance Program work with the Labor Department and Department of Veterans Affairs to provide counseling, training, workshops, briefings and guidance on the benefits and services available to veterans.

Transportal includes a list of the locations and phone numbers of the 212 Transition Assistance Offices worldwide as well as links to related Web sites.

The site also features a section titled "Your

Next Career." It includes a mini-course on conducting a successful job search and writing winning resumes. Another mini-course provides instruction on using the Internet to find a job, how to create electronic resumes and avoid Internet scams.

Transportal provides links to job search Web sites that track up to 1.5 million job listings, to 100 corporate recruiting sites, and to state job Web sites. You can also post your resume for employers to view. A suggested reading list of job search resources is also included.

The DoD site can be particularly helpful to service members stationed overseas, Smith said. "Without easy access to newspapers and other sources of information on job opportunities in the United States, they must rely on the Internet to find and compete for jobs."

*"Without easy access to newspapers and other sources of information on job opportunities in the United States, (service members) must rely on the Internet to find and compete for jobs."*

— Ollie M. Smith



COURTESY PHOTO

## Kicking it

Marines from Company E, 2d Battalion, 3d Marine Regiment, practice martial arts training aboard the USS Juneau as part of Task Force Echo. More than 200 Marines from the battalion sailed to Darwin, Australia, to participate in the Darwin Centennial Celebration, which took place Feb. 16-20. The Marines displayed their equipment and performed demonstrations during ship tours which were part of the celebration. While underway, the Marines completed the newly developed Marine Martial Arts Program, tan belt level, and participated in ship security drills. "Marines from Hawaii very rarely get the opportunity to embark aboard amphibious shipping," said Capt David Bradney, Company E Commander. "This deployment helped the Marines realize the amphibious nature of the Corps, and it showed them how hard the Sailors work and that it takes both services to make a successful amphibious force." The Marines will make a port call at Sasebo, Japan, before returning to Okinawa in early March, where they will prepare to attend Mountain Warfare Training at Camp Fuji, Japan.





LCPL CHAD SWAIM

## Awards ceremony

Col David J. Biow, Commanding Officer, H&S Bn, 3d FSSG, receives a Silver Unit Award (average contribution of \$90 per contributor and/or 50 percent participation) from BGen Willie J. Williams, Commanding General, Marine Corps Base, for his unit's donations to the Combined Federal Campaign 2000. The CFC 2000 Unit Awards Presentation Ceremony was held Feb. 22 at Club Chesty's on Camp Foster. The ceremony included the presentation of 20 Gold Unit Awards (average contribution of \$120 per contributor and/or 60 percent participation), 21 Silver Unit Awards and 13 Bronze Unit Awards (average contribution of \$60 per contributor and/or 40 percent participation) to Marine Corps and Navy units on Okinawa. In all, CFC 2000 saw 10,829 contributors from Marine Forces Japan pledge a total of \$676,643.

## SAFETY ZONE

### Know the regulations, hazards when diving

MARINE CORPS BASE SAFETY OFFICE

Service members on Okinawa have ample opportunity to participate in water sports such as scuba diving while stationed here.

Operational risk management plays a major roll in reducing the potential risk of injury or fatality, whether you scuba dive or operate a 5-ton vehicle.

You can reduce the risk by identifying the hazards, assessing the hazards, making risk decisions, implementing controls and supervising.

Words of caution: riptides and currents in and around reefs can create dangerous conditions even though general water conditions appear relatively calm.

Divers are strongly advised to avoid diving

during Caution and Warning Sea Conditions and All water activities are prohibited during Sea Condition Red, which may or may not involve Typhoon Conditions.

In addition, high surf and crashing waves have claimed the lives of inattentive bystanders on seawalls, caves and beach coasts here on Okinawa.

For divers it's explained in MARCORBASESJAPANO 1710.3C:

*"No person may dive while under the influence of alcohol or drugs or within twelve hours of consuming any alcoholic beverages."*

*"No person may consume any alcoholic beverage between dives or within six (6) hours after the last dive."*

*"Persons who are not certified divers will not SCUBA dive except as a student under the direction and supervision of a certified instructor with current teaching status and insurance. Protective clothing in the form of torso and foot protection is also required by the regulation and must be worn."*

# Women's Reserves celebrate 58 years

LCPL JUSTIN R. CARTER  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

**MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT, SAN DIEGO, Calif.** — It all started for women on Aug. 13, 1918, when Opha Mae Johnson enlisted into the Marine Corps as a private.

Three hundred and four women soon followed her footsteps and joined the Women's Reserves. The women of World War I were not referred to as Marines, but rather "Marinettes". They did not attend basic training. They were assigned their orders and sent to their duty stations where they served as clerks in order for male Marines to engage in combat. Ironically, women were allowed to serve in the military, but they were not given the right to vote.

Eighty-two years later things have changed.

On Feb. 13, members of the Women Marines Association, Marines from Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar and MCRD's Weapons and Field Training Battalion (located at Camp Pendleton, Calif.) came aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, for a program celebrating 58 years of women in the Corps at the Depot Command Museum.

Female Marines all the way from lance corporals to two sergeants major and a colonel came out and participated in a historical uniform pageant. The first uniforms consisted of a heavy, wool, blanket-like, olive green coat and near floor length skirts, with black button hook heels.

As the time periods changed, so did the uniforms. Marines paraded the "catwalk" in olive green coveralls, parade whites, civilian maternity attire and the present day dress uniform for officers.

Marines at the pageant were not only amazed by the history of the uniforms, but the history of women in the Marine Corps that dated back to the early 1800s.

On Feb. 13, 1943, the Marine Corps announced the formation of a women's reserve. This was the first time that women in the Corps would be known as Marines. During World War II, 20,000 women joined the Corps. Women attended basic training in Camp Lejeune, N.C. Women memorized military protocol, learned precision drill and received classes in Marine Corps history and customs and courtesies.

Women Marines did not fire on the range, but they did preview the rifle range and the hand to hand combat school.

The conflict in Vietnam opened more job opportunities for women. In March 1967, MSgt Barbara J. Dulinsky reported to Saigon and became the first woman Marine ordered to a combat zone.

In 1977, Col Margaret Brewer became the last Director of Women Marines. The following year, Brewer received the rank of brigadier general and became the first woman general in the history of the Marine Corps.

As the years went by, women in the Corps slowly received equal rights. In the 1980s, the Corps saw its first women warrant officers, the first African-American lieutenant colonel and many more changes.

The 1990s brought many changes as well. From 1990-91, approximately 1,000 women Marines were deployed to Southwest Asia for Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

BGen Carol A. Mutter became the first woman of any service to take command of a major operationally deployable unit. Women were also given the first chance to fly combat aircraft.

Today, 768 women are in the officer ranks and 8,051 women make up five percent of the active duty enlisted in the Corps. Ninety-three percent of all occupational fields and 62 percent of all billets are now open to women. Women recruits today undergo the same training as their male counterparts in recruit training.



## **NJP REPORT**

The following are alcohol-related nonjudicial punishments for Feb. 11-17.

### • Underage drinking

Three Lance Corporals with III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, were found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$584 pay per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

A Private First Class with Headquarters and Service Battalion, 3d Force Service Support Group, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$521 pay per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

A Private First Class with 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3d FSSG, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$234 per month for one month.

A Lance Corporal with Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, was found guilty at a squadron-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$584 per month for two months.

A Private First Class with H&HS Sqdn, MCAS Futenma, was found guilty at a squadron-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$521 per month for two months.

Two Privates First Class with Headquarters Battalion, 3d Marine Division, were found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$584 per month for two months and restriction for 60 days.

A Lance Corporal with HQ Bn, 3d MarDiv, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$300 per month for one month and restriction and extra duties for 14 days.

### • Underage drinking and drunk and disorderly

A Lance Corporal with 3d Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 3d MarDiv, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of the above offenses. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$584 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

### • Driving while under the influence

A Corporal with III MEF HG, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of the above offense. Punishment: reduction to E-3, forfeiture of \$607 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

### • Allowing a Marine to consume alcohol while under the legal age to do so

A Corporal with III MEF HG, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of the above offense. Punishment: reduction to E-3, forfeiture of \$653 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

### • Purchasing for and distributing alcohol to an underage Marine

A Lance Corporal with H&S Bn, 3d FSSG, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of the above offense. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$584 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.



LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA

## Terrific teen

Safiyyah Ballard, a 2ndLt in the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps and military family member, was presented an award for achieving Marine Corps Teen of the Year, 2000, by BGen Willie J. Williams, Commanding General, Marine Corps Base, Feb. 22 at Bldg 1, Camp Foster. Ballard gave thanks to God and to her parents for their encouragement. "They've been my inspiration and strength," she said.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### 2001 Seabee Ball

Celebrate the 59th birthday of the Seabees and the 134th birthday of the Navy Civil Engineer Corps at the 2001 Seabee Ball.

The event will be held at the Camp Butler Officer's Club March 9 at 6 p.m and is open to all service members and their families.

The attire will be Dinner Dress Blue or service equivalent.

Tickets for the event are on sale now and cost: \$10 for E-1 to E-4, \$15 for E-5 to E-6, \$20 for E-7 to O-3 and MLCs, and \$30 for O-4 and above.

Please contact your Seabee Ball representative for more information:

**USMC FE:** LTJG Kranz, 645-2962

**USNH:** CPO Bliss, 643-7498

**MCAS Futenma:** PO1 McCartney, 636-3119

**CFAO:** PO3 Brightwell, 634-8213

**OICC:** Seaman Laystrom, 645-7397

**NMCB:** Seaman Walden, 632-4250

### New taxi shuttle service

There is a new taxi shuttle service from Bldg. 1 to all points on Camp Foster and Marine Corps Air Station Futenma.

This service is free for all official travel by military personnel and civilian employees.

The shuttle service is available Monday through Friday (except holidays) from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To take advantage of the service, call 645-7355. This service is offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

### Anniversary ball

The Philippino-American Association of Okinawa will be hosting its 9th Anniversary Ball in conjunction with the inauguration of officers at the Camp Butler Officers Club March 10 at 6 p.m.

All who wish to celebrate the association's anniversary and congratulate the newly elected officers are welcome to attend the formal dinner ball.

Door prizes will be awarded based on dinner ticket numbers.

Tickets are \$25 each and the event is open to both SOFA and non-SOFA status personnel.

For ticket purchase or other information, call Violy Carsolin at 933-9752 or e-mail [violy1@hotmail.com](mailto:violy1@hotmail.com).

### Blood drive

The Okinawa Retired Military Association and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 11435 are hosting a blood drive March 5 from 8-11 a.m. at the Kadena Air Base USO.

Refreshments will be provided. For more information, call Stanley Stewart at 99-936-7150.

### Night-light recall

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Dura Kleen (USA) Incorporated of Brooklyn, N.Y. is voluntarily recalling approximately 459,000 night-lights.

The night-lights electrical connections are loose, they are made from flammable plastic and the power switch does not work.

The night-lights pose shock and fire hazards to consumers.

CPSC and Dura Kleen are not aware of any injuries associated with these night-lights.

This recall is being conducted to prevent the possibility of injury.

Discount stores in the states sold the night-lights from March 1999 through August 2000 for approximately \$1.

Consumers should stop using the product immediately and return them to the store where purchased for a refund.

For more information, call CPSC at (800) 638-2772 anytime. To see a picture of the recalled product, log onto [www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01093.html](http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01093.html).

### To submit a brief ...

Send an e-mail to [editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil](mailto:editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil) or fax your request to 645-3803. The Okinawa Marine accepts briefs for non-profit organizations and groups only and they are run on a space-available and time-priority basis. Deadline for submitting briefs is noon every Friday and the Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit all submitted material to fit space.



# A parking lot education

They've infiltrated almost every Marine Corps building. They may even be hanging on your office wall.

Motivational posters are everywhere, bearing anything from sailboats that battle raging seas to hands clasped together in unity with catchy slogans.

This 'art' migrated out of our civilian contemporaries' corporate offices and into our military workspaces.

It is part of a half business, half military work world.

The posters are just a symptom of the military's efforts to adopt a business approach to help our institution run more smoothly.

I have seen PowerPoint presentations given that call Marines customers and how we will best serve our customers. I have heard talk of providing quality customer service to Marines before, however, I have never seen tangible proof of what I would call customer service.

Well this all changed when I was in the parking lot last week of the new Marine Corps Consolidated Administrative Center, MCPAC, which is the combined Marine Corps Base and 1st Marine Aircraft Wing administrative support office on Camp Foster.

Every single parking space was reserved ... reserved for customers.

There was not one space set aside for the staff;

not even one for 'Performer of the Month.' I happened to be walking out of the building with the MCPAC Officer In Charge who was going to his car which was parked in a lot clear across the street. My car was parked right in front of the main entrance and here the OIC was walking across the street.

I tried to tease him about it by asking if maintenance hasn't come around yet to repaint the lot. He shot back without missing a beat and said that the customers come first and that they were here for us.

As I got in my car to drive off, I remembered the naysayers grumbling how consolidating administration offices into MCPAC was a bad idea; that bigger was worse.

My reply is that they haven't been to MCPAC.

Sure, it's new and there are of course going to be growing pains.

With everyone from the OIC to the front office greeter (yes, they even have someone to point you in the right direction) sharing one common goal, serving the customer, I have no doubt that bigger is better.

MCPAC is off to a great start and in that parking lot I learned a lesson about customer service.

— Capt Jeffrey S. Pool, Consolidated Public Affairs Office, MCB



## What Would You Do?

The following examination of leadership issues is not intended to present right or wrong answers. The goal is to provide a forum to encourage leadership discussions of challenging issues. Chaplain responses are designed to provide moral and ethical guidance. Questions, comments or ideas for a future scenario may be submitted to: [editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil](mailto:editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil)

### Taking responsibility seriously

You are a salty corporal who is now in charge of two Marines, a lance corporal and a private first class.

You are in an administrative billet and this is the first time in your Marine Corps career that you have had the privilege of leading junior Marines.

Fortunately, both of your Marines couldn't be more locked on and squared away. You have a leadership style that allows your Marines to act on their own initiative and back-brief you on the current projects. There have only been a few instances when you have had to crack the whip and "motivate" them.

One Saturday night they invite you to a barracks party. Normally you wouldn't attend, but you figure just dropping by wouldn't hurt.

When you get to the party there are several corporals, lance corporals and privates.

The mixing of NCOs and non-NCO's doesn't really bother you, but it is your 20-year-old PFC with a beer in his hand who catches your eye.

You drank occasionally when you were underage, but were never caught.

You would feel hypocritical if you said something. Your father used to say, "Do as I say, not as I do."

You don't want to ruin this Marine's career, but you also know that you have certain responsibilities that come with your rank, so what do you do?

### What the Marines said

**Sgt with 3d MarDiv:** "First, I would never be caught dead with privates and lance corporals, but I know Marines drink underage. I did it. In this situation the PFC let me catch him. But if it's his first time in trouble, I'm going to keep it between us."

**Cpl with III MEF:** "Dumb enough to get caught then he's earned a trip to see the company first sergeant. If I would let him get away with it, then he would never learn."

**LCpl with 3d MarDiv:** "Our command is really hard on underage drinking. I should be a corporal soon and I'm not going to lose it for a PFC. But if it's a Marine who I know and have to work with or go to the field with, then I'm going to keep the situation as low key as possible without frying myself or the PFC."

### What the Chaplain said

The Corporal has an obligation as a leader to do the right thing, even if he is not comfortable with addressing the issue because of his past experiences. If the Corporal looks the other way he not only perpetuates the problem, but he has sacrificed his ability to lead others. Leadership is about influence. How can one possibly lead others if he or she lacks the moral courage to do the right thing? It is important that the PFC understand that the real issue is not the drinking underage. The real issue is his lack of self-discipline, his disregard for the rules, and his disrespect of his leaders.

The corporal's responsibility in this situation is to teach his PFC that there are consequences for our actions. Neither the corporal nor the PFC get to choose the consequences. If you are responsible enough to make decisions, then you must be responsible enough to accept the consequences.

If we are going to live by our core values of honor, courage, and commitment we must learn to hold each other accountable when those values have been violated. If we don't hold each other accountable then our foundation begins to shake, trust is betrayed and America's finest becomes tarnished.

— Navy LT Timothy M. May, Chaplain, BLT 1/5, 31st MEU



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# III MEF Band

*marches to a new beat  
at the Jungle Warfare  
Training Center*



PFC DAMIAN J. MCGEE

Sgt David Hendin, JWTC Instructor, assists Cpl Jeremy Penisten, Trumpet Player, with his rope just before Cpl Penisten rappels. Penisten and the other members of the III MEF Band underwent an abridged version of the Jungle Warfare training package.



COURTESY PHOTO

A band Marine navigates through the trenches of the "Pit and Pond" obstacle of the Endurance Course at JWTC



PFC DAMIAN J. MCGEE

The training is physically demanding and III MEF Band members experienced a few injuries at the Jungle Warfare Training Center.



COURTESY PHOTO

A team of Marines from the III MEF Band navigate one of the stream crossing obstacles during the Endurance Course at JWTC.





Several members of the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band rappel as part of the band's visit to the Jungle Warfare Training Center to undergo field training.

## *Trading instruments for rifles, the band takes on the challenging obstacles on the Endurance Course*

GYSGT MARLON J. MARTIN  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

**CAMP GONSAIVES** — Trudging through cold and wet mud with water running down their faces was anything but an average day for members of the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band who recently attacked the endurance course at the Jungle Warfare Training Center here.

The band recently took advantage of some time between performances to conduct battle skills training here and at Camp Hansen. The band Marines often receive classroom instruction on battle skills training subjects, but it's rare that they get to swap their instruments for their rifles.

"This was a window of opportunity for us to be able to shut down all musical operations to do training for an extended period of time," said CWO3 James A. Ford, Band Officer.

According to CWO3 Ford, the intent of the field training exercise is to physically and mentally challenge the Marines, promote unit cohesion and esprit de corps, as well as provide refresher training in basic combat skills.

"It's very important to invest in this type of training, as our combat mission

is to provide security for the command post," CWO3 Ford said.

Before heading north to JWTC, the Marines first spent two days training at Camp Hansen.

They checked out their weapons from the Camp Hansen armory and hiked a few miles to Landing Zone Pigeon to begin their training. They were later divided into two groups with one team conducting defensive operations, while the other conducted a combat patrol.

The bandsmen primarily engaged in weapons classes, day and night patrolling, and setting up rear area and command post security while at LZ Pigeon. They were trained on how to assemble, disassemble and fire M240G and M249 machine guns and the M203 grenade launcher. They also received classes on first aid, cover and concealment, and land navigation.

"We haven't done anything like this before," said Cpl Jeremy A. Penisten, Trumpet Player.

According to Cpl Penisten, the training was good for him and his fellow bandsmen. Although he didn't go through all of the obstacles, Cpl Penisten said he could tell his fellow bandsmen enjoyed the experience.

"I am proud of everyone. Everyone was motivated as the two groups competed against each other," Cpl Penisten said.

The training was the first time in the field for many of the bandsmen since going through the Marine Combat Training course following boot camp.

"The training at MCT was intense, but mainly because a drill instructor was there and constantly hollering at you," said LCpl Nathan M. McMillen, French Horn Player. "The training here in the mountains was more real. It was hard, and it drained you energy-wise. There's nothing like being in the jungle carrying your weapon. It was truly indescribable," he said, adding that the trip to JWTC was an experience of a lifetime.

"Lucky for us, we had some experienced staff NCOs to help motivate us and get us through the obstacles," LCpl McMillen said.

Besides reinforcing and enhancing leadership and battle skills, the training was also geared to challenge the Marines' endurance, build confidence and develop leadership skills and teamwork.

According to MSgt Luis O. Arce,

Drum Major and Staff Noncommissioned Officer In Charge, teamwork is what helped the Marines complete the obstacles.

"It's good to get hands on experience in the field. It's uplifting to see the Marines utilize team effort in overcoming the various obstacles. They are current in their PME, but it's not the same until they actually get in the field and do the training. Then it starts to make sense," MSgt Arce said.

Reflecting on his mountain, desert and jungle training experiences, MSgt Arce admitted that the JWTC endurance course was just as challenging for him as it was for the younger Marines.

"This course was a lot more fun, challenging and realistic. It was definitely more rewarding than any other training I've done," MSgt Arce said.

"We try to do this type of training yearly, but sometimes our commitment schedule is too heavy. The band officers' intent, however, is to stay on track with our annual training plan," said SSgt Steven B. Palinosky, High Brass Group Leader.

The III MEF Band members realize that remaining combat ready is the first priority.



# School's in for RPs

*First technical school offered to chaplain assistants gives them invaluable training, knowledge*

PO2 SANDRA ARNOLD  
NAVY JOURNALIST

YOKOSKA, Japan — Navy PO1 Carrie Anne Boniek arrived toting textbooks and an abundance of motivation, ready to provide students of the Religious Program Specialist "F" School with advanced RP skills and knowledge they need to be successful in their rating.

Religious Petty Officers (in ranks E-4 through E-6) from around the Pacific met recently to attend the first Naval Technical Training Religious Program Specialist "F" School ever held here.

PO1 Jason Zaun, a Religious Program Specialist from Headquarters Battalion, 3d Marine Division, was among six Religious Program Specialists from commands on Okinawa who attended the course. PO1 Zaun graduated first in the course.

"The Mobile 'F' Course, is an advanced course for RP's," PO1 Boniek said. "It teaches RP's management skills to prepare them for upper level management positions as well as administrative tasks and tools needed to conduct briefs to very

senior people including Captains and Admirals."

This full-time, three-week course is packed with lessons in personnel management, public speaking, upper management leadership, as well as physical training, homework and tests which keep the RP's busy and on their toes.

For all students, the class, at the very least, serves as a refresher course for advancement examinations.

"If you are wanting to make rank, you need to attend a course such as this in order to broaden your knowledge of the RP rating. There are many things I do not know yet as a junior RP but by being exposed to more senior RP's, I am able to learn from their experiences," said PO3 Treba Stapleton, Diego Garcia. "I want to make rank and I think this course can help me to do that," she said.

For other students, having the opportunity to attend this course as a junior enlisted Sailor has



PO2 SANDRA ARNOLD  
Navy Religious Program Specialists exercise during the first Naval Technical Training Religious Program Specialist "F" School at Yokoska, Japan. The course offered the RPs training in areas such as leadership, public speaking and personnel management.

been a goal for quite some time.

"I've been here in Japan for five years and have been trying to attend this school," said PO2 Perrish Walker.

PO1 Boniek is scheduled to conduct similar classes for RPs stationed in Hawaii, Camp Pendleton, Calif., Camp LeJeune, N.C., and Jacksonville, Fla.

# Sailor uses a G.I. Joe dream as inspiration

LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

**CAMP HANSEN** — He wanted to be a Religious Programming Specialist to aid chaplains and to fulfill a childhood G.I. Joe dream.

Navy Seaman Apprentice Steven P. Zurek, RP, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines, 3d Marine Division, was born in 1980 in Detroit, Mich., but was raised in Chicago where he said he led a typical American life.

"When I was younger I always wanted to be G.I. Joe. I wanted to be the real American hero," said the 5' 10" Seaman Apprentice Zurek. "Plus my grandfather was in World War II and my uncle was a Marine during Vietnam.

"I had a sister who was three years older than me and we both were active all the time. I was in the Boy Scouts and she was in the Girl Scouts. When I was playing baseball, she would be in ballet," Seaman Apprentice Zurek said.

While growing up he always had an interest in the military, particularly the Army.

At first he pursued the Army because he liked the aspect of training in the field. However, after no response from the Army recruiter on several occasions, he sought to join the Navy.

"The Army had canceled the appointments we made twice in a row. At the same time the Navy wanted to talk to me, and because of their persistence I decided to join the Navy," Seaman Apprentice Zurek said.

When joining the Navy, Seaman Apprentice Zurek wanted to have a job that allowed him to get training in the



LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA  
Seaman Apprentice Steven P. Zurek joined the Navy and became a Religious Program Specialist.

field, like a G.I. Joe.

"Looking over my options for jobs, I decided to become an RP due to my Catholic upbringing. It would allow me to get training in the field and possibly serve with Marines," Seaman Apprentice Zurek said.

After completion of boot camp Seaman Apprentice Zurek went to a seven-week school in Meridian, Miss., to become an RP. He was informed that he would be on the "Green Side," which meant that he would be working with Marines.

"I was excited when I heard that I would be working with Marines," Seaman Apprentice Zurek said.

Seaman Apprentice Zurek was sent to Camp Lejeune, N.C., to go through Field Medical School, which is a seven-week course that corpsmen go through. At the school he learned

how to fire different weapons, the proper way to wear the Marine Corps uniforms, how to stand in a Marine Corps formation as well as going on road marches.

"All the things I learned during my training are important because it helps me in my mission as an RP, which is to protect the chaplain," Seaman Apprentice Zurek said.

"When we are in war situations I am the chaplain's bodyguard. I have been trained to be a combatant and it is my duty to protect him," Seaman Apprentice Zurek said.

"We as chaplains could not function in the field with out RP's," said Navy CDR Mitch Schranz, Station Chaplain, Headquarters and Service Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station Futenma. "They are absolutely vital to our mission."

"I would be proud to lay my life on the line for my chaplain," Seaman Apprentice Zurek said.

Being stationed on Okinawa as his first duty station, Seaman Apprentice Zurek has enjoyed his experiences with Marines.

"I love working with Marines. Even though I would like to see how the Navy side works, I still want to stay on the Marine side," Seaman Apprentice Zurek said.

"I remember the first time I went to the field and saw Marines firing artillery. I almost had a heart attack the first time I heard it go off, but the Marines were just so calm as if it never went off," Seaman Apprentice Zurek said.

He said being an RP isn't a stressful job usually, but it still involves a lot of work.

"Some of the tasks we do to help

the chaplains include, setting up religious service, administrative work, making sure we are qualified with the M-16A1 and being a bodyguard," Seaman Apprentice Zurek said. "It might sound easy but things don't always go as routine."

"One time my chaplain and I went to the field and were going to do services for the Marines, but I forgot to bring the religious materials. We usually use a cross and a chalice, however I had to improvise. I went out and found some sticks, tied them together with 550 chord to form a cross, and cut a Gatorade bottle in half to make the chalice," Seaman Apprentice Zurek said.

Being an RP doesn't mean having to spend 24 hours a day, seven days a week in the church, he said.

"We have a pretty regular job which allows me to go out and have fun with my buddies," Seaman Apprentice Zurek said.

"I enjoy the same things as most service members do, such as going to the gym, playing sports, scuba diving, reading about the history of the services and making fun of Marines," Seaman Apprentice Zurek joked.

Seaman Apprentice Zurek has enjoyed his year and a half in the service and is looking forward to future experiences of being an RP in the Navy.

"So far I have had a wonderful time here," Seaman Apprentice Zurek said. "I know a lot of service members get down about being over here, but I don't see this time as a wasted year. I see it as a gained life experience, which I'm glad to have gotten."



# Master sergeant recounts battle of her life

*Timely self-exam gives her the upper hand with breast cancer*

GYSGT CLAUDIA M. LAMANTIA  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

**CAMP PENDLETON** — When she entered the Marine Corps in 1979, she knew going to war was possible. But she didn't know the battle of her life would come 20 years later on friendly territory.

From behind a neatly organized desk, MSgt Dixie L. Franklin welcomes people into her office with a warm smile. Pictures and plaques, reminders of her family, friends and previous commands, dot the room.

A red yearbook holding memories of boot camp adorns the coffee table.

Her hazel eyes stare intently at the book as she describes changes that have taken place during her career from c-rats to meals ready to eat, cash paydays to direct deposit, dungarees to utilities and image development classes (social functions etiquette) to the Crucible.

Along with the changes, MSgt Franklin, who serves as Legal Service Chief for Marine Corps Base, has seen her share of challenges including her previous assignment as Law Office Manager for the Legal Counsel to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon.

Every day she dealt with pertinent issues like rules of engagement, operational law, joint ethics and Freedom of Information Act. It was the pinnacle of her career.

But nothing could match the challenge she faced in late 1999, a year after coming here. She noticed a lump on her left breast during a breast self-exam — a self-exam that, as it turns out, probably saved her life.

Not instantly alarmed, she waited a month to see if there were any changes. The lump was still there.

After several medical appointments that included a mammogram, an ultrasound and a biopsy, the shocking news came. She was diagnosed with stage-two breast cancer.

"I was dumbfounded and initially had a whole assortment of feelings to get used to," MSgt Franklin said.

The tumor threatened her lymph nodes.

The cancer had ambushed her body and she knew it was time for a counterattack. She gathered as much information as possible from doctors, nurses, publications and through the Internet.

After discussing the options with her husband, MSgt Alan H. Franklin (Operations Chief, 1st Intelligence Battalion, I Marine Expeditionary Force), she decided on a modified radical mastectomy.

The soft-spoken blonde was scheduled for a procedure that would include removing the tumor, any tissue where the cancer possibly would spread, more than a dozen "at risk" underarm lymph nodes and reconstructive surgery all in the same day, according to Franklin.

The approach she chose for the latter is a transverse rectus abdominis musculocutaneous flap technique.

This surgery rebuilds the contour of the breast or breasts by taking tissue from other areas of the body, according to the Food and Drug Administration.



USMC PHOTO  
MSgt Dixie L. Franklin, Legal Services Chief, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, shows off a family portrait. Today, she is on the road to recovery from breast cancer after a self exam caught it in its early stages.

Following her stay at Balboa Naval Hospital San Diego in April 2000, she had six weeks of recovery, then four rounds of chemotherapy.

The ordeal brought out her incredible courage, said Col Donald L. Davis, Assistant Chief of Staff, Staff Judge Advocate, Marine Corps Base, whose wife is also a breast-cancer survivor.

Chemotherapy proved to be the most challenging period, according to MSgt Franklin. The drugs, losing her hair and fatigue consumed her world at times.

The uncertainty and sudden realization that she was facing her mortality told MSgt Franklin she could no longer "take anything for granted," she said.

Both Franklins agreed that one of the toughest things was explaining to their son what was happening.

Tarl, however, proved to be a great inspiration, they said. He handled everything in a concerned way, kept his schedule as normal as possible and occasionally said a few words of encouragement.

According to his mother, during her "bad chemo days" when her hair had fallen out, he would come close to her and with a smile say "Mommy, it's all right, it'll grow back."

Support for recovery came in many forms, MSgt Franklin said. Talking with her family, Balboa Hospital staff, friends and other cancer survivors keeps her going.

"She has the biggest heart," said GySgt Christine M. Dare, Reserve Liaison Chief, I Marine Expeditionary Force and family friend.

Although this life-changing event took a lot out of her, she made sure everyone else was taken care of, GySgt Dare said.

One of her biggest motivators is the story of 5-year-old Nicolas Hanson. Nicolas, son of Camp Pendleton Marine SSgt Michael Hanson, received a bone marrow transplant last year after battling acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

"Thoughts of that courageous little boy kept me going," said MSgt Franklin.

As time passes, it's easier to deal with things.

"Having a positive attitude is the best thing. So much is going on physically and mentally — it helps to have a good outlook in life," she said.

That philosophy helped her through the next challenge confronting her family.

A few weeks after her final chemotherapy session last fall, the phone rang as she was getting ready to go to work.

It was the local hospital emergency room.

Her husband had been in a motorcycle accident. She and Tarl rushed to the hospital and found her husband alive but with a shattered shoulder, a couple of broken ribs and a broken collarbone.

After a week in the hospital, he went home, where his wife and son nursed him back to health.

Her road to recovery continues.

She emphasizes that the earlier cancer is detected, the better the chance of survival. She wants women to know how important monthly breast self-exams are, she said.

An estimated 175,000 women and 1,300 men are expected to be diagnosed with breast cancer this year, according to the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center at The University of Texas.

Although she's still recuperating, she has the tools and determination to confront whatever comes her way.

"She faced her own humanity, looked it right in the eye, took a deep breath and charged right through it," Col Davis said.

## A FEW FACTS SURROUNDING:

### Breast cancer

A report from the National Cancer Institute estimates that approximately one in eight women in the United States will develop breast cancer during her lifetime.

Early detection, through physical self breast examinations and mammographies, is still the best way to increase the chances of survivability. Women ages 50 and over are recommended to undergo a mammogram every one to two years.

Source: <http://cis.nci.nih.gov/fact>



# 7th Comm Marines continue giving tradition



PFC DAMIAN J. MCGEE  
LCpl Amanda J. Prater (left) and PFC Candy Garcia were among the Marines who dedicated their time to assisting the Hikariga Oka Nursing Home in maintaining its beauty. 7th Comm Marines volunteer monthly to assist the nursing home in maintaining its upkeep.

PFC DAMIAN J. MCGEE  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

**CAMP HANSEN** — Former president Bill Clinton noted the close relationship the Marines of 7th Communications Battalion share with Hikariga Oka Nursing Home, during his visit to Okinawa last summer.

The relationship remains strong. More than 20 Marines recently visited Hikariga Oka Nursing Home. The Marines visit the nursing home regularly. During their visits, they work on grounds maintenance, as well as occasionally entertain the residents.

"We've supported the home for years," said Navy IT Ray Summerlin, Chaplain, 7th Comm Bn, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group. "We usually bring anywhere between 20 and 40 Marines, and they really enjoy helping."

The Marines' effort significantly benefits the employees of the home as well.

"We have a really big yard here," said Hideko Egie, Chief Director, Hikariga Oka Nursing Home. "Our staff can't handle all of our maintenance needs, so it is a big help when the Marines take the time to come help."

If necessary and when time permits, the Marines often extend a helping hand to the upkeep inside the facility.

"They mostly help with the work outside," Egie said. "Occasionally, the weather is bad when they come, so we have them help us with things on the inside."

It's not all work for the Marines, who also get the opportunity to chat with and entertain the residents.

"We were also here during Christmas," LT Summerlin said. "We sang carols and had lunch with

the residents."

It is those times that the residents of Hikariga Oka value and remember most, according to Egie.

"They love to see the young Marines come," Egie said. "And they really love it when they're able to spend time with them."

The Marines who visit the nursing home come from various occupational backgrounds, to include mechanics familiar with using the equipment necessary to do the grounds maintenance.

"I got involved because they didn't have anyone to fix the equipment," said Sgt Chuck Lentz, Tactical Satellite Communications Operator, 7th Comm Bn. "It was breaking down and making the job a lot harder for the Marines."

The battalion saves a lot of money over time by having someone on hand to fix the equipment.

"If we can maintain the equipment we have, it will save us money in the long run," Sgt Lentz said.

The Marines are money conscious because they pay for the equipment.

"The Marines paid for all of this themselves," IT Summerlin said. "Over time it has been their donations that have enabled us to have the equipment we have."

The Marines who attend the event value what they're doing for the community. According to Sgt Lentz, they know they may not have otherwise had such an opportunity.

"I think the Marines who don't come out here with us are missing something," Sgt Lentz said. "They need to realize that this may be the only opportunity for them to give something back while they're here."

## "Toastmasters" develop leadership, communication

PFC DAMIAN J. MCGEE  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

**CAMP FOSTER** — Toastmasters is a nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting men and women improve their communication and leadership skills, according to the organization's charter.



Watson

"If you have ideas and skills, you are an expert. If you can communicate them well, you are a leader," said Dr. Howard Watson, secretary and former president of the Okinawa Toastmasters.

"The group allows individuals to self-pace themselves through a process of learning how to speak with conviction," Watson said.

Most people are fearful of public speaking, Watson said.

"Toastmasters is not going to make that fear disappear," Watson said. "Instead,

the group teaches people how to manage fear and use it to their advantage. It teaches them how to take the butterflies that line their stomach and have them standing at attention.

"The thing that sets humans apart is our ability to verbalize and communicate our ideas," Watson said. "Everything we do involves speaking skills, whether it be actually speaking or just listening. Being able to communicate well can help a person in their personal, professional, spiritual, emotional and educational aspect of their life."

Members learn how to speak with sincerity, organize thoughts and speeches, persuade and inspire an audience, use props and visual aids, and use correct body language.

"Having members evaluate one another provides a very friendly and supportive method for people to learn," Watson said.

Toastmasters is open to anyone, according to Watson.

"The only person this organization would not benefit is the person who is not willing to improve themselves," Watson said.

The Okinawa Toastmasters meet every first and third Saturday, 9 -11 a.m. at the Kadena Officers' Club. For more information or to become a member contact Dr. Watson at 645-0814.



GYSGT MARLON J. MARTIN

## East meets West

PO1 Alan M. Dagg, Regimental Religious Program Specialist, 4th Marine Regiment, 3d Marine Division, interacts with a class of fourth-graders at Kube Elementary School in Henoko as part of the Volunteer English Teaching Assistant Program. This program places service members and family members in the classroom with third, fourth and fifth-grade children at the school to help the students learn about American culture, traditions and language in their "General Studies" class.



# Heaters take first at volleyball tournament

LCPL CHAD SWAIM  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

**CAMP HANSEN** — The Commander's Cup Volleyball Tournament held here Feb. 2 ended with the Hansen Heaters nudging out the 7th Comm Bombers 25-22.

Three teams battled for more than two hours of fierce competition.

The 1/5 Docs came out early in the tournament by defeating the Hansen Heaters 13-11 in the first game. The 1/5 Docs decided to forfeit after the first game. This left them in third place for the tournament.

The Hansen Heaters came back with a vengeance in the second game defeating the 7th Comm Bombers 25-14.

The third game of the evening ended with the Hansen Heaters once again defeating the 7th Comm Bombers with a close 27-25.

The fourth game took on a completely new look for the 7th Comm Bombers when they narrowly defeated the Hansen Heaters 25-23. Although there was a slight misunderstanding between one of the Hansen Heaters team members and the scorekeeper, the final score remained unchanged.

"Our score is supposed to be 12," said Eric K. Nielsen, Hansen Heaters. "You (scorekeeper) didn't flip the numbers over right when you came to 10."

The final game of the night left the victory in the hands of the Hansen Heaters when they once again defeated the 7th Comm Bombers 25-22 to win the Camp Hansen Commanders Cup Tournament.



Ebert Lara (right), Hansen Heaters, blocks the attempted spike of Jason Delgado, 7th Comm Bombers.

LCPL CHAD SWAIM

## Hansen's House of Pain hosts weightlifting contest

*MCCS, Semper Fit provide service members forum to flex their muscles*

LCPL KEITH R. MEIKLE  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

**CAMP HANSEN** — Six weightlifters watched in silence as Keith Freeman bench-pressed 345 pounds to win the weightlifting competition recently held at the Camp Hansen House of Pain.

The weightlifting contest, sponsored by Marine Corps Community Services and Semper Fit, provided service members an opportunity to flex their muscles.

"Competing in such competitions as these is always a big confidence booster for me," Antoine Santiago said, finishing second overall in the weightlifting competition. "This competition gives me an opportunity to see the fruits of my labor."

The weightlifting competition is about more than just the amount of weight a person can lift into the air. Competitors are given points based on their form, technique, rate of weight increase and the overall weight they lift.

Competitors who are successful in these competitions spend

a great deal of time perfecting their form.

"Form is very important," said A. Cece, one of the judges for the competition. "The body must be still, the bar level, and the lifters have to have a controlled stop at the bottom of their press."

Some lifters try to use improper lifting form to increase their maximum lifting weight, but the judges are looking for errors in form just as keenly as they admire the total pounds placed on the bar, according to Cece.

"Some lifters do what is called a 'touch and go,' but we red flag it every time we see it," Cece said.

According to both the lifters and judges, form is not only a necessity for winning the weightlifting competitions, but also a safety issue.

People who attempt to lift beyond their ability can seriously or even fatally injure themselves, according to Cece.

The top four contenders for the men's competition finished without injury, each with successful lifts of 290 pounds or better.

In their respective men's weight classes, the top winners of this year's contest are: Scott Slattery (165 lbs.); Barry M. Wile (198 lbs.); Keith Freeman (220 lbs.); and Antoine Santiago (275 lbs.)

Slattery captured his first place win with a fantastic finish in his weight class. After struggling with a



LCPL KEITH R. MEIKLE

Antoine Santiago, 243 lbs., struggles with his final lift of 375 lbs., in the Open Bench Press competition Jan. 27, held at the Camp Hansen House of Pain.

285-pound lift, Slattery bounced back to win with a 290-pound lift.

Wile started off with a strong 300-pound lift. He attempted to press 320 pounds, but was forced to settle with a 305-pound lift. His lift, however, was enough to put him ahead of all the competition in the 198 lbs. weight class.

Like Wile, Freeman also started out at 300 pounds. He quickly distanced himself from his competition though when he jumped in weight to a final lift of 345 pounds, in the 220 lbs. weight class.

Santiago, however, was right on his tail. He started light at 320 pounds, before jumping to 365 pounds on his second lift. Although Santiago's final lift of 375 pounds

landed him first place in the 275 lbs. weight class, it wasn't enough to get him the overall title.

Freeman won the men's overall title with a total score of 137 points, while Santiago trailed closely with 132.

In the women's division, Audrea Cutchin, 168 lbs., walked away with the crown, winning the women's overall title with a final lift of 145 pounds.

She led off in rounds one and two with lifts of 115 and 125 pounds, respectively.

For more information concerning upcoming competitions or proper weightlifting techniques, contact your respective camp's gym or weightlifting facility.



# A small piece of paradise

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CPL. KIMBERLY S. DOWELL  
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

**OKUMA, Okinawa** — It's not your typical military installation. There are no barracks, only cabanas and log cabins. The uniform worn here is swimsuit and sandals. There are no forced marches either, only leisurely strolls along quiet jungle trails or stretches of soft sand and blue ocean water.

The Okuma Joint Services Recreation Facility offers all Status of Forces Agreement personnel a way to escape the stresses of military life without the expense of an off-island trip.

"We come here because it is affordable, and we feel more secure knowing we are more likely to have something in common with other people staying here," said 1stLt Jeremy Thompson, Training Officer, Provost Marshal Office, Marine Corps Base, Camp Smedley D. Butler. "There is less of a language barrier."

1stLt Thompson recently spent the weekend at Okuma with his wife and three daughters. The family stayed in one of the facility's newly updated log cabins.

"The new air conditioning is great," his wife Kirsten Thompson said. "It makes the cabins much more comfortable."

In addition to the log cabins, Okuma offers two other lodging options.

Camping sites at the Beach Front or Overlook camping areas are available on a first-come, first-served basis for \$6 a night. Currently, the Overlook, the "singles" camping area, is closed due to a construction project. The Beach Front remains open for both families and single service members.

Cabanas, the third Okuma lodging option, are available by reservation. Prices for the cabana rooms vary based on rank and room-type. Each of the cabanas feature kitchenettes with microwaves and refrigerators.

The recent addition of video game systems and DVD players may keep visitors from wanting to leave their rooms, according to Air Force Capt Michael E. Lamb, Commander, Okuma Joint Services Recreational Facility.

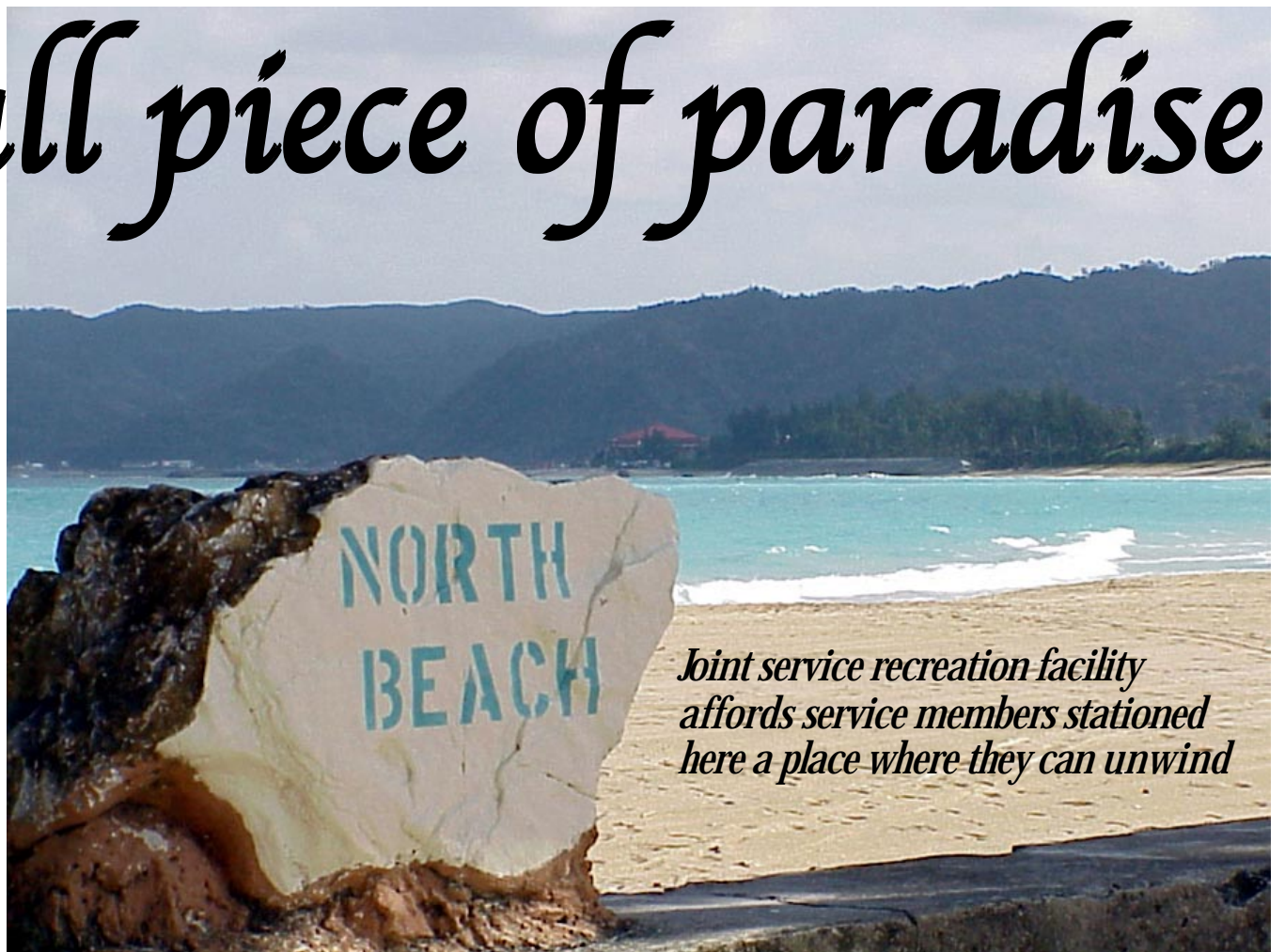
If visitors choose to lounge in their cabanas and order room service, they will miss out on the many activities offered.

The sky-blue ocean waters surrounding Okuma offer great snorkeling and diving, according to Lee Staley Sr., Boathouse Operator, Okuma Joint Services Recreational Facility.

The boathouse provides snorkel and dive gear rentals as well as the "Coral Connection" a \$10, hour-and-a-half-long, guided, snorkeling tour of the Okuma reefs.

In addition to diving and snorkeling, water skiing and glass bottom boat packages are available. Jet ski rentals are yet another way for visitors to enjoy their time at Okuma.

If boating or jet skis aren't what



*Joint service recreation facility affords service members stationed here a place where they can unwind*

North Beach is the largest of Okuma's three beach areas. It is open year-round, but swimming is only allowed when a lifeguard is on duty.

Staley's customers are looking for, kayaks, body boards, paddle boats, windsurfers and sea cycles can be rented as well.

"The weather determines what I can send out on the water," Staley said. "Occasionally, the paddle boats may be the only thing I can safely rent out and even then, you could be looking at a serious workout."

Calling ahead for weather and water conditions is suggested, especially following a typhoon.

A miniature golf and a nine-hole golf course complement the many water activities offered at the recreational facility. Nine holes of golf cost SOFA status personnel \$5. Eighteen holes cost \$7.50. A round of miniature golf is free.

The golf course is closed through May due to a drainage construction project.

Trails wind through the hills of Okuma and the surrounding area. Patrons are encouraged to visit nearby Hiji Falls for a challenging, but enjoyable, hike, according to Capt Lamb.

The Okuma Surfside Restaurant is open seven days a week for visitors needing to restore the energy they expend while enjoying the activities offered at the recreational facility.

The restaurant offers a breakfast buffet, lunch and dinner menus, as well as room service from 5 to 8:30 p.m. The menu features American favorites like hamburgers and pizza, as well as fresh salads and Okinawan dishes.

With all that Okuma currently has to offer, Capt Lamb said plans to improve the facility are ongoing. A pool, deep-sea fishing trips and programs designed to give single service members more opportunities to enjoy the facility are on the horizon for Okuma, he said.

There is an entire population of single service members, especially Marines on six-month deployments to Okinawa, who may be missing out on the opportunity to enjoy this facility,



The carefully landscaped entry to Okuma greets thousands of visitors annually. Nearly half of these visitors are Marines and their families.

according to Capt Lamb.

"If your duty schedule gives you time off during the week, then Okuma could be your personal playground," he said.

Marines make up nearly half the total number of annual visitors to the facility. Capt Lamb is researching ways to increase that percentage and to fill the rooms that remain empty during the off-season and on weekdays.

"Now, during the off-season, is the perfect time to come to Okuma," Capt Lamb said. "It is much easier to get a room, and we offer specials that make the stay even more affordable. For example, through the month of February, we offer \$350 in Okuma goodies for only \$200 during weekday stays."

To get to Okuma, follow Highway 58 through Nago past Kijyoka Village. A large sign on the left-hand side of the road reads "Okuma." Take this left. The Okuma Joint-Services Recreational Fa-



Okuma Recreation Facility offers two-bedroom cabanas complete with kitchenettes, Sony Playstations and DVD players.

cility shares the area with a Japan Air Lines Villa Resort. The military facility's entrance is on the left-hand side, past the Japanese resort's gate.

For more information or to make reservations, contact the Schilling Community Center Reservations desk at 634-4FUN(4386) or 634-9869.





## AUTOMOBILES/MOTORCYCLES

**1985 Yamaha 700** — \$3,000 OBO. Luis, 636-2627 or 646-4511.  
**1988 Honda Prelude** — JCI Dec 01, \$1,700 OBO. 090-9785-2197.  
**1986 Pajero 4x4** — JCI Jul 01, \$4,000 OBO. 622-5141.  
**1991 Toyota Carina** — JCI May 02, \$2,300 OBO. 637-4265.  
**1987 Mitsubishi Delica** — JCI Dec 02, \$1,700 OBO. 637-3939.  
**1988 Honda Prelude** — JCI Mar 02, \$1,200 OBO. 636-4618.  
**1989 300ZX** — JCI Feb 03, \$5,800 OBO. **1991 Nissan Bluebird** — JCI Nov 02, \$2,400. 636-3005.  
**1989 Toyota Chaser** — JCI Jan 02, \$175. Harold, 645-2952.  
**1990 Honda Civic** — JCI Sep 01, \$1,900 OBO. **1986 Toyota Corolla** — JCI Sep 01, \$400. SSgt Turberville, 637-2482.  
**1990 Nissan Pulsar** — JCI Nov 01, \$1,500 OBO. Ken, 622-8232.  
**1991 Nissan Silvia** — JCI Dec 01, \$700. David, 645-6251.  
**1991 Mitsubishi Diamante** — JCI Jul 02, \$2,000 OBO. 623-6184.  
**1989 Toyota Chaser** — JCI Jan 03, \$2,800 OBO. 646-3119.  
**1994 Honda Cynos** — JCI Jan 03, \$2,500 OBO. 646-3045.  
**1986 Toyota Town Ace** — JCI Jan 02, \$1,600. 645-4273.  
**1989 Honda Accord** — JCI Oct 01, \$1,100. 632-3181.  
**1990 Toyota Carina** — JCI Apr 01, \$1,700 OBO. 622-5328.  
**1998 HD 1200** — \$9,000. Phil, 646-8524 or 636-1175.  
**1989 Toyota Town Ace** — JCI Jan 03, \$3,400 OBO. 646-5348.  
**1991 Nissan Presoa** — JCI Jan 03, \$2,000. **1989 BMW** — \$500 OBO. **1991 Nissan Maxima** — JCI Sep 01, \$2,600. 637-4097.  
**1992 Honda City** — JCI Dec 02, \$1,800. Latresa, 646-5747.  
**1988 Honda Prelude** — JCI Dec 01, \$1,800 OBO. 090-9785-2197.  
**1993 Toyota Exiv** — JCI Feb 02, \$3,500 OBO. 646-4289.  
**1986 Honda Shad 1100cc** — \$1,800. Neil, 876-6062.

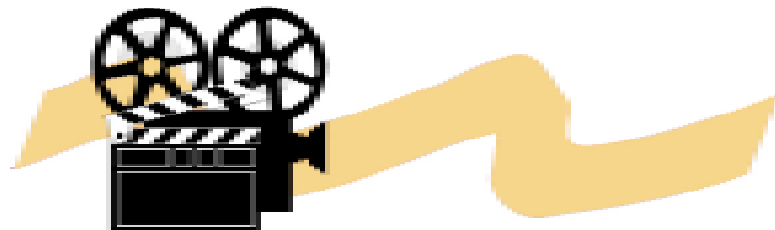


## MISCELLANEOUS

**Misc.** — Burgandy drapes, \$175 and Sealy Mattress and box spring set, \$250. SSgt Turberville, 637-2482.  
**Misc.** — Beige German sofa w/(2) chairs, \$60; (4) Scandavian Kitchen chairs, \$30 and (2) bambo twin beds, \$15. 645-2952.  
**Pet** — FTGH Golden Brown Traditional Japanese Sheba dog. Housebroken, shots and spayed. 890-4822 after 7 p.m.  
**Piano** — Spinnet piano, \$1,200. 622-5141.  
**Misc.** — Patio canopy 10x20, \$100. 633-1337.  
**Misc.** — Dehumidifier, \$75 and 2000 watt transformer, \$70. Tom or Deb, 632-3257 or 622-9460.  
**Misc.** — (2) Gemini XL 500 turntables, Gemini PMX mixer, Technics head phones, (2) turntable cartridges, Odyssey (80 LP case) and (50) house and underground records, \$750. 637-3070.  
**Misc.** — Queen Bed Serta Perfect Sleeper, \$40; toddler canopy ded w/mattress, \$50; crib w/mattress, \$40; bakers rack, \$85; Little Tykes pool w/slide, \$30; shed, \$300; sit/stand stroller, \$35; and stroller w/shade and basket, \$35. 622-5178.  
**Misc.** — Eight channel Futaba Radio Control plane w/all access, NIB. Large Piper cub almost ready to fly, \$500. 622-9347  
**Textbooks** — UMUC-GVPT 170 book, \$35; CTC-Math 1307 college algebra book with solution manual, \$65; and ECON 1301 with additional subject book, \$30. 646-5042.

Ads appearing in the Okinawa Marine do so as a free service to active duty military, their dependents and DoD employees. Ads are restricted to personal property or service of incidental exchange. Ads run on a space-available basis and must be resubmitted each week. The deadline for ads is noon, Fridays, space permitting. The Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit ads to fit available space. Please include your name and the phone number you wish published. The Okinawa Marine makes every effort to ensure accuracy, but assumes no responsibility for services offered in ads. Submit ads by faxing to 645-3803, Mon.-Fri., or send an e-mail to editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil

## Coming to a theater near you ...



Feature programs and start times are subject to change without notice. **Call theaters in advance to confirm showtimes.** Second evening movies will vary when the program runs longer than 120 minutes.

### Courtney (622-9616)

**Fri** Sweet November (PG13); 7:00  
**Sat** Proof of Life (R); 7:00  
**Sun** Dude, Where's My Car? (PG13); 7:00  
**Mon** Closed  
**Tue** Closed  
**Wed** Cast Away (PG13); 7:00  
**Thu** Closed

### Hansen (623-4564)

**Fri** Little Nicky (PG13); 6:00,  
The Sixth Day (PG13); 6:00  
**Sat** Red Planet (PG13); 9:00  
**Sun** Vertical Limit (PG13); 2:00  
**Mon** Charlie's Angels (PG13); 7:00  
**Tue** Charlie's Angels (PG13); 7:00  
**Wed** Almost Famous (R); 7:00  
**Thu** Almost Famous (R); 7:00

### Butler

(645-3465)

**Fri** Hannibal (R); 7:00, 10:30  
**Sat** Dungeons and Dragons (PG13); 1:00, 4:00  
**Sat** Hannibal (R); 7:00, 10:30  
**Sun** Dungeons and Dragons



**Check Courtney, Keystone, Kinser and Schwab Theaters for show times.**

(PG13); 1:00, 4:00

**Sun** Hannibal (R); 7:00  
**Mon** Almost Famous (R); 7:00  
**Tue** Almost Famous (R); 7:00  
**Wed** Vertical Limit (PG13); 7:00  
**Thu** Sweet November (PG13); 7:00

### Kinser

(637-2177)

**Fri** Proof of Life (R); 7:00  
**Sat** Charlie's Angels (PG13); 3:00  
**Sat** Vertical Limit (PG13); 7:00, 11:30  
**Sun** Almost Famous (R); 7:00  
**Mon** Closed  
**Tue** Charlie's Angels (PG13); 7:00  
**Wed** Sweet November (PG13); 7:00  
**Thu** Almost Famous (R); 7:00

### Keystone

(634-1869)

**Fri** Dungeons and Dragons (PG13); 6:30  
**Fri** The Pledge (R); 9:00  
**Sat** Charlie's Angels (PG13); 1:00  
**Sat** Sweet November (PG13); 5:30  
**Sat** The Pledge (R); 9:00  
**Sun** Charlie's Angels (PG13); 2:00



**Check Kinser, Butler, Keystone, Schwab and Hansen Theaters for show times.**

**Sun** Sweet November (PG13); 5:30, 9:00  
**Mon** Vertical Limit (PG13); 7:00  
**Tue** Vertical Limit (PG13); 7:00  
**Wed** Charlie's Angels (PG13); 7:00  
**Thu** Almost Famous (R); 7:00

### Schwab

(625-2333)

**Fri** Dungeons and Dragons (PG13); 7:00  
**Sat** Proof of Life (R); 6:00  
**Sat** Bounce (PG13); 9:00  
**Sun** Proof of Life (R); 3:00  
**Sun** Bounce (PG13); 6:00  
**Mon** Sweet November (PG13); 7:00  
**Tue** Sweet November (PG13); 7:00  
**Wed** Closed  
**Thu** Almost Famous (R); 7:00

### Futenma

(636-3890)

**Fri** The Sixth Day (PG13); 7:30  
**Sat** Proof of Life (R); 6:00  
**Sun** Bounce (PG13); 6:00  
**Mon** Valentine (R); 7:30  
**Tue** Closed  
**Wed** Hannibal (R); 7:30  
**Thu** Closed



**Check Butler and Futenma Theaters for show times.**